

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE,  Complainant,  vs.  SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY L.P.,  Respondent.	DOCKET NO. FCU-03-50
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**ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT AND ASSESSING CIVIL PENALTY**

(Issued March 17, 2004)

On October 9, 2003, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a "Petition For Proceeding to Consider Civil Penalty" for alleged slamming violations committed by Sprint Communications Company L.P. (Sprint).

In its petition, Consumer Advocate asserted that Sprint switched the complaining customer's long distance service without proper authorization in violation of Iowa's anti-slamming law, Iowa Code § 476.103 (2003).

On March 8, 2004, the parties to this docket, Consumer Advocate and Sprint, submitted a joint motion for approval of a settlement. The settlement agreement

addresses all issues in the docket and includes a monetary penalty against Sprint in the amount of \$500, which is to be paid within 30 days of the date of this order.

The settlement agreement is reasonable in light of the record, is in conformance with all applicable statutes and rules, is in the public interest, and will be approved. 199 IAC 7.2(11).

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. The "Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement" filed in this docket on October 9, 2003, is granted and the "Settlement Agreement" is approved.

2. Pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.103 and the "Settlement Agreement" filed March 8, 2004, Sprint Communications Company L.P. is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$500. Payment is due within 30 days of the date of this order.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Sharon Mayer  
Executive Secretary, Assistant to

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2004.